

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. If they so choose to air a biased documentary then at least wait until after the election? If they wait it may be possible to consider it free speech. However if it is aired prior to the election (the timing is very suspicious) it could be considered nothing more than right winged propaganda. Sinclair should not be allowed to use the public airwaves (which we own) in order to elect an administration that they want to see in office.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.